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HOW TO BUILD UP THE STATE.

Astorian enthusiastically claim that the proposed sea wall will give Astoria the finest harbor of any city on the coast, and will attract wide attention to that city as a desirable port; also will help to make it "a common point" and a commercial center. Go ahead, good, live people of Astoria, broad-minded men of Portland wish you all sorts of success.

The above clipping is taken from the Oregon Daily Journal, Portland's new and highly successful newspaper. It will be observed that the whole soul of the writer is in the little paragraph, and that the utterance is bubbling over with enthusiasm. This is a striking departure for a Portland newspaper, and is important as showing that the antiquated mossback spirit heretofore so general in the metropolis is giving away to a broadminded policy having for its attainment advancement of the interests of the entire state.

There are today perhaps half a million people in Oregon—the estimate may be a trifle low. Astoria, with 14,000 or 15,000 population, is the second city; Salem the third with 8000 or 10,000, and Baker the fourth, with 7000 or 8000. It can not be said that any natural cause is responsible for the fact that the state has not advanced in all sections. Astoria is better located by far than Portland, has vastly greater natural resources, more water and every other requisite to make it a greater city than Portland, yet this city has but 15,000 people, while Portland has 100,000 or more. Portland enjoyed the early advantage of railroad assistance, and Astoria did not. Therein lies the secret of Portland's greatness and Astoria's failure to attain the prominence which her location should give to her. The same statement may correctly be applied to the other second-class cities of the state, although none enjoys the unsurpassed location of Astoria.

Having secured the early advantage over the other towns of the state, Portland has industriously striven to gather to herself all of the enterprises of Oregon and to strangle self-effort on the part of her smaller neighbors. Being her most dangerous rival for supremacy, Astoria has received most of her attention.

Quite naturally the state has suffered because of Portland's narrow policy in the past, and it is gratifying to observe that the old spirit of antagonism to the other cities of Oregon is now being supplanted in the metropolis by a feeling that all sections should be encouraged. It is ridiculous for the people of one city to think they can represent the commercial interests of an entire state. Salem and Pendleton should make our flour; La Grande should manufacture our sugar; Baker should produce most of our mineral wealth; Astoria should furnish the salmon product and most of the lumber, and, situated at the sea, should attend to most of the shipping. Each city of the state has a special function to perform, and it is a grave commercial error for any other city to attempt to deprive her of the resources which rightfully belong to her. Portland is the commercial and financial center of the state, and probably will continue to be for many years to come. Advancement of any section of the state can not but help the metropolis—indeed, is essential to her wellbeing—and is lamentable the fact has been ignored for the past 25 or 30 years.

The Journal displays the right spirit. There is plenty of room in this great state of ours for Portland, Astoria, Salem, Baker and all the other cities, and it is largely to the discredit of the metropolis that all of the towns named are not thrice their present size. With the passing of the one-town idea Oregon may be expected to increase her population and commercial wealth, and

to become the great commonwealth her resources should naturally make her.

JAPANESE RESOURCES.

Japan is beginning to discover that war is expensive business. Although her struggle with Russia has only just begun, she finds herself cramped for revenue, and, to eke out expenses, the Japanese cabinet now proposes to double the income tax on land, increase the taxes on spirits and tobacco and create a variety of new taxes. What this means may be inferred from the fact that Japan has already raised a big revenue from duties on imports and stamps, from the excise on alcohol and sugar, from the post and telegraphs, from the tobacco monopoly and from the railroads, forests and other government enterprises.

While Japan has made marked progress in civilization, it is to be remembered that she is still comparatively a poor nation. The bulk of her population is on the verge of indigence, and the rate of wages among many of the working classes is almost as low as it is in China. Her foreign trade in 1902 amounted to only \$280,000,000—far less than that of Spain, which has only about one-third the population of Japan. Her imports are only a little over \$3 per capita, while her exports per capita are still less. Her total savings bank deposits amount to less than \$40,000,000, an average of less than \$6 for each depositor, while in 1902 the total deposits of the bank of Japan were less than \$2,000,000. Although her monetary system is now on a gold basis, her entire stock of the yellow metal is only \$52,000,000. Her other resources are on a similar limited scale. It is evident, from such statistics, that Japan is in no situation to stand the strain of a prolonged and expensive war.

While the present conflict is in progress, too, all sorts of Japanese trade and industry cannot fail to be seriously affected. Foreign commerce must necessarily be interrupted, while heavy taxation for war purposes means inevitably a lessened demand for the products of mill and factory and shop other than war supplies. New enterprises cannot be undertaken because the capital that is needed for them will retire to hiding places or will be required by the government. In other words, Japan has entered on a struggle that means an enormous increase in the consumption of national wealth and at the same time, an enormous decrease in the production of national wealth. She is burning the candle—and a short candle, at that—at both ends.

Apparently, Japan's salvation rests in a brief but sharp war. Should Russia be able to prolong the struggle, the indications are that it is a matter of not many moons when Japan may be driven into bankruptcy—unless, indeed, her ally, Great Britain, should meanwhile come to her rescue with either money or armed forces.

THE HOME OF THE MICROBES.

If St. Paul could have seen the time when 96,000,000 microbes would be found on a single greenback he would have been more than ever convinced that the love of money is the root of all evil, says the Saturday Evening Post. The health authorities throughout the country are becoming aroused to the danger of disease-carrying currency, and Health Commissioner Darlington, of New York, proposes that every piece of money in circulation shall be freely disinfected. At the same time congress is asked to pass an act compelling the government to destroy all of the bills it takes in and pay out none but new ones.

Of course, nothing ought to be allowed to stand in the way of health, but it is worth while to remember that under this arrangement bills of small denominations would be an extremely expensive luxury for our Uncle Samuel. It costs the government a little over a cent and two thirds to print, issue and redeem a note, regardless of its size. That is over one and two thirds per cent of the value of a dollar bill. If the notes were purely fiat—issued with nothing but the public credit behind them—the government would, in fact, be borrowing at three and one third per cent if they were redeemed twice a year, six and two thirds per cent if they were redeemed quarterly, and twenty percent if they were redeemed monthly. But, in addition, it loses the interest on a huge gold reserve and an enormous mass of silver bullion, most of the small bills being silver certificates.

The cost of printing and handling is insignificant in proportion to the value of large bill, but it is very heavy in proportion to that of small bills. The Bank of England, which never pays out an old note, issues no notes for less than twenty-five dollars. In the number of pieces our bills above that number is not worth counting.

What we really need is a handy coin to take the place of the one dollar and

two-dollar bills. The silver dollar is too clumsy.

If somebody will show us how to make a dollar about the size and weight of a quarter, durable, distinctive in appearance and not easily counterfeited, we can retire all our small paper currency, and several trillion microbes will be out of a job.

New York's Protest.

Heaven defend us from the creation of a state of Montezuma! With the comparative merits of the two-state proposition, the four-state proposition and the no-state proposition we are not now concerned. This is an article on nomenclature. It is said in Washington that a two state project is again talked of, and that the people of Arizona are to be forced unwillingly into a state called Montezuma by submitting an enabling act for union with New-Mexico to the combined population of the two territories. It is calculated that Arizona would rather remain a territory than accept such statehood, but by this little game of bunco they are to be permitted to be a minority in voting themselves on a general ballot of both constituencies into the union. The morality of that scheme might at another time arouse our interest, but we are too deeply impressed by the horror of Montezuma to be moved by any such minor matter! Better to dwell in a perpetual state of slavery than be pitchforked into a state of Montezuma, says the New York Tribune.

Who was Montezuma, that a sovereign state of the American union should bear his name? What association has he with the land to be admitted? Montezuma is the more or less incorrect name of a more or less mythical Indian chief who at the time of the Spanish conquest dwelt about a thousand miles from the territory in question and probably never saw or heard of it. He was not a great warrior or statesman, but appears to have been an amiable weakling whose misfortunes cast about him a halo of sentimentality. It would be about as appropriate to call the proposed state after the Incas, Pocahontas, Toussaint L'Ouverture or the legendary Tammany. Congressmen picking out such a name suggests a romantic mother calling her child for the heroine of the last novel she wept over.

If these two territories are to be combined there are already two good names available. Arizona is euphonious and firmly fixed to one part of the soil. Descriptively and historically New-Mexico is even better, and the only reason for abandoning it would be the jealousy of Arizonians. New-Mexico has been the name known the world over for that region for four centuries. It has been in every geography since the arrival of the Spaniards. It is as thoroughly naturalized as Florida or Louisiana or Texas or California. It is older than Massachusetts or Virginia. It is no more un-American than the names of any of the other territories which have come down to us from Spain bringing their titles with them, and no more a servile imitation than New York or New Jersey or New Hampshire. The name should run with the land. It is of historic importance. Wantonly to blot it from the map to replace it with some stupid new invention would be a piece of verbal vandalism.

Several names, including that of Jefferson, have been mentioned in congress for the consolidated territory, or even as a substitute for New Mexico should that be admitted with its present boundaries. They should all be abandoned and one of the established names kept, preferably the older and more descriptive. If rivalries make that impossible, however, a good local geographical name should be found in mountains or rivers, and all unbridled fancies avoided. Likewise names of persons should be avoided. Washington is not a good name for a state, though the memorial to the father of his country may be pardoned. It is awkward and leads to confusion. A name like Jefferson, already attached to a hundred towns, cities and counties, would be inconvenient. Besides, it is not euphonious. It is not naturally the name of a country. Aside from the colonial names in honor of individuals, and those all euphoniously transformed into natural territorial designations, all the states except Washington have had names which came to them naturally from geographical considerations. The precedent should be followed; and above all, let us not disgrace ourselves with any Montezuma monstrosity!

War Prisoners Released.

Nagasaki, March 10.—The crews of the merchant vessels captured by the Japanese warships since the war began, have just been released and in all 400 Russians, Chinese and Germans have been turned over to their respective consuls to be sent back to their own countries. Forty of the officers taken at the same time still remain at Sasebo. The coal cargo of the Norwegian steamer Hermes has been released.

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ASTORIA

7:45 a.m.	For Portland and Way Points	11:30 a.m.
6:10 p.m.		10:30 p.m.

SEASIDE DIVISION

*8:15 a.m.	Astoria for Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Stevens, Hammond and Seaside	7:40 a.m.
11:35 a.m.	ton, Flavel Fort Stevens, Hammond and Seaside	4:00 p.m.
5:50 p.m.		*10:45 a.m.

6:15 a.m.	Seaside for Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Fort Stevens & Astoria	12:50 p.m.
*9:30 a.m.		7:30 p.m.
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St. Paul Fast Mail 7:45 p.m.	Walla Walla, Lewiston, Spokane, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago, and East	8:00 p.m.

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